

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 07519 181614Z

53

ACTION EUR-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /004 W

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SECSTATE WASHDC 5388

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO, AO

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

ANGOLA: PORTUGUESE PRESS COMBINUES CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO REPORTS OF U.S. AID TO FNLA AND UNITA, ESPECIALLY REGARDING U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE ON TOPIC. SEMI-WEEKLY LIBERAL INDEPENDENT "EXPRESSO" ARTICLE SIGNED BY JOAO ISIDRO TOOK POTSHOTS AT BOTH USSR AND U.S. RE THEIR REPORTED ROLES IN ANGOLA. AFTER STATING THAT U.S. HAS DIFFICULT RELATIONS "WITH MOST OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE (AFRICAN) CONTINENT" BECAUSE OF ITS RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND ZIMBABWE, WRITER GAVE THIS DETAIL ABOUT SOVIET ACTIVITIES: "THE AIR SHUTTLE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND ANGOLA CONTINUES THE PACE OF FIVE PLANES AN HOUR..." A SIDEBAR SAID THAT ONE SHOULD SPEAK OF ANGOLAN SITUATION AS AN "ALMOST-VIETNAM, GIVEN THE FACT THAT FIGHTING TAKING PLACE IN ANGOLA HAS LITTLE TO DO WITH LIBERATING THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE BUT INSTEAD IS THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE TWO MAJOR POWERS AND THE 'DIPLOMACY OR ARMS' DICHOTOMY USED BY MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON...." SAMPLE HEADLINES IN OTHER PAPERS: CENTER-RIGHT "O DIA" OF DEC 18 -- "SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVISTS SENT TO ANGOLA, CONFIRMS PRETORIA GOVERNMENT"; INDEPENDENT LEFT "A CAPITAL" OF DEC 17 -- "AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA MEETS SENATE OPPOSITION"; SOCIALIST "A LUTA" OF DEC 17 -- "U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE REFUSES

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PAGE 02 LISBON 07519 181614Z

AID TO FNLA AND UNITA"; LEFTIST "DIARIO DE LISBOA" OF DEC 17 --

"END OF SESSION: NO SOLUTION FOR ANGOLAN PROBLEM AT U.N."

JORDAN

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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